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T.R.A. DOCKET ROOM

August 9, 2004

Darlene Standley
Chief, Telecommunications Division
Tennessee Regulatory Authority
460 James Robertson Parkway
Nashville, TN 37243-0505

Re: TRA Docket No. 04-00193
Section 254(e) Certification of United Telephone Company
To Receive USF Disbursements in calendar year 2005

Dear Ms. Standley:

I, Herbert R. Bivens, General Manager/Asst. Treas., of United Telephone Company (the "Company") do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that the following is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief:

1. I am the General Manager/Asst. Treas. of the Company;
2. The Company is a "rural telephone company" as defined in Title 47 U.S.C. §254(e), subject to the jurisdiction of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority;
3. The Company is eligible for disbursements from the Federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") as prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"); and
4. The Company will utilize its USF disbursements for high cost support (including any high cost loop support, local switching support, high cost support received pursuant to the purchase of exchanges, high cost model support, and hold harmless support) will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 47 U.S.C. § 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

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TN REGULATORY AUTHORITY
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5. United Telephone Company received \$1.8 million Universal Service Support for fiscal year 2003. The funds were allocated as an offset to operating expenses in the regulated network and as investments and maintaining telephone plant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Herbert R. Bivens".

Herbert R. Bivens
General Manager/Asst. Treas.